

Reserve  
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*The Negro*  
FARM FAMILY  
*Moves Ahead*



# A DEFINITE GROWTH

Citizens of North Carolina, white and Negro, do not hesitate to point with pride to the progress being made by that great number of progressive Negro families who till the soil of their native state. The first Negro farm agent was appointed in 1912 and since that time there has been a steady advance in the number of farm and home agents until today there are 82 at work in those counties with the larger Negro populations. Not only are there Negro farm and home agents at work but every white agent and each Extension specialist considers it an everyday, normal part of his duty to work with the rural people of both races.

There is no distinct Negro Extension Service in North Carolina. There is only one, and that is the cooperative activity known as the Agricultural Extension Service, which encompasses the cooperative effort of the county, state, and national governments through the agencies designated by law to conduct Extension work. Much progress has been made both by the Negro Extension workers and the Negro farm families whom they serve. North Carolina is proud of this progress. Extension work with Negroes is based on the solid foundation of a mutual understanding of the problems of the Negro farm family, and it is gratifying to note the progress being made and to have had a part in it.

I. O. SCHAUB  
*Director*

APRIL, 1945

EXTENSION CIRCULAR No. 281

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NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AND U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CO-OPERATING, N. C. AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE, I. O. SCHAUB, DIRECTOR, STATE COLLEGE STATION, RALEIGH, N. C. DISTRIBUTED IN FURTHERANCE OF THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF MAY 8 AND JUNE 30, 1914.

# THE NEGRO AND THE LAND

The Negro represents approximately 28 percent of the population of North Carolina. Half of this population lives on the farm and makes up 29 percent of the total farm population. The valuation of the land owned or operated by Negroes as recorded in the census of 1940 is \$113,121,849, or 15 percent of the total farm land valuation in the State.

Half of the Negro population of North Carolina is directly affected by the "ups and downs" of agriculture and a large portion of the remainder, engaged in industry, are dependent upon agricultural products for raw materials and also is affected in one way or another.

As the agricultural growth of the State progresses, so should the Negro family living on the farm make progress. Yet, this will not be true unless the Negro farmer is encouraged and taught how to utilize the land which falls under his jurisdiction to the best

advantage. Otherwise the whole agricultural progress of the State will fail to advance as it should.

Progress is being made in providing agricultural leadership for our Negroes. They have Farm and Home Agents in 43 counties where there are 45,000 Negro farm operators. This is definite progress, yet there are still many thousands of other operators both in these and in other counties where farm agents are not employed who need the same assistance.

Other leadership is being provided through a better landlord-tenant relationship. White landowners who have many Negro families operating their land have come to realize that proper leadership, closer cooperation, and a more personal interest in the welfare of the family on the land will not only pay dividends, but will build a better agriculture.



# CLOSER COO





**OPERATION HAS HELPED**



**LANDLORD AND TENANT**





# FOOD AND FEED PRODUCTION

Proper food is an essential of healthful living, and for that reason much effort has been exerted by the Negro Extension Service workers in improving the kinds and amounts of food produced by the Negro farmer and his family.

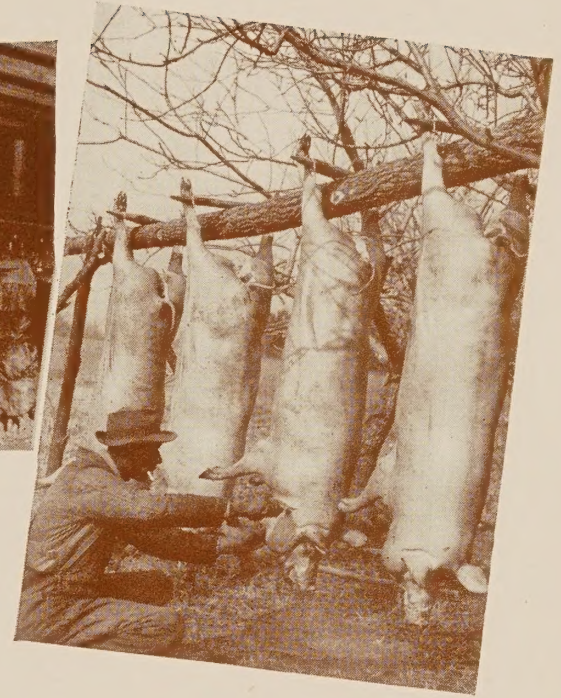
During 1944 the agents assisted 30,149 families in the 43 counties in which Negro agents are employed, to improve the food supply on their farms. These improvements are noted in the better varieties of fruits and vegetables in the home garden; an increase in the varieties of vegetables grown to meet diet needs; a better knowledge of storing and conserving food crops gained through demonstrations in canning and drying; and a general increase in the quality and quantity of livestock and poultry produced on the farms. In the livestock program, particular emphasis was placed on the production of hogs for meat, chickens for meat and eggs, and the family cow for milk and butter. Within the last two years 2,176 milk cows have been placed with Negro

families about half of whom had never owned a cow before. Over two hundred purebred bulls have been placed in the communities where the Negro farmers were interested in improving the type of dairy animals. Landowners and tenants both shared in this improvement campaign.

Any livestock program necessarily requires a feed program if it is to be conducted on an economic basis. Negro farm agents have devoted much time to the production of temporary and permanent pastures where the livestock might graze most of its own feed. Small grains have been encouraged for harvest as well as for temporary grazing. Wheat for the family as well as for the poultry; other small grains as a feed for the livestock have been seeded. The agents have advocated the planting of hay crops, particularly legumes in an effort to improve the soil as well as to provide better feed. The Negro is learning to provide for himself at the same time that he grows cash crops.



# AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORK



Has promoted the Home Garden, Livestock and Poultry Program among our farmers in North Carolina.



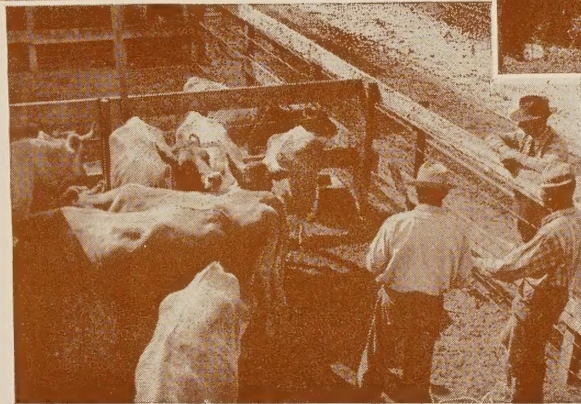


WE ARE GROWING MORE  
FEED FOR OUR  
LIVESTOCK





THIS LIVESTOCK HELPS FEED US . . .



AND ADDS TO OUR ANNUAL INCOME



# CONSERVATION

Many a family has worked long, hard years paying for a farm on which to live only to find that by the time it had been paid for, most of the good soil had washed away. Negro Extension agents have made much progress in helping farm families to hold their lands while they were paying for them, and to actually improve the soil during the acquisition period. In 1944, they assisted 11,951 Negro farmers in soil management practices, including recommended crop rotations, constructing terraces, drainage, and the proper use of cover and green manure crops.

Food conservation has been one of the main projects in home demonstration work. During 1944, Negro farm women in 41 counties canned 2,180,860 quarts of fruit, 2,147,193 quarts of vegetables, and 194,043 quarts of meat. In addition to this, the 4-H Club members put up over 207,000 quarts of these products. Adults and 4-H Club members also dried over 334,000 pounds of fruits, vegetables and meats. The home agents have encouraged the greater use of pressure canners particularly for non-acid vege-

tables and meats. In 1944 there were 2,157 pressure canners in use among the Negro home demonstration clubs in 40 counties, 526 of these being purchased during the past year.

Much effort has been made, especially throughout the tobacco section, to encourage farmers who produce a quantity of sweet potatoes to cure and store these in tobacco barns. The smaller grower, and those having no barns, have been taught to use other available buildings or to construct banks in which their potatoes, turnips and other root crops will keep properly. Farmers are also being taught to grade their products and to store only the best quality. Care of feed crops such as hay and small grains has been given attention and much feed which was formerly lost is now being converted into pork, milk and eggs.

In the home, garments have been made from sacks. During last year 46,262 old garments were renovated and remodeled. The Negro family is being taught not only to produce, but to conserve as well.





**PRODUCTION ALONE IS NOT ENOUGH.**  
Our Soil and Clothing Must Be Saved as Well  
As Our Food.



# MARKETING

Marketing products grown by Negro farmers of North Carolina has not presented any serious problem, since most of the produce is consumed on the farm or is marketed through the established channels. However, to supplement their incomes and to enable them to make further improvements about the home and farm, time has been devoted to the establishment of outlets for surplus garden products, poultry, eggs and livestock.

In 1944, 7,746 Negro farmers not in organized cooperatives were assisted during the year in the marketing and distribution of livestock, dairy products, poultry and eggs, and fruits and vegetables. The value of this produce sold or purchased by farmers or farm families was \$291,094.00.

A good start has been made in establishing Negro farm and home curb markets to dispose of fruits, vegetables, poultry eggs and livestock products. Last year on four of these markets, located in Tarboro, Rocky Mount, Wilson and Goldsboro, seventy-three

Negro farm families sold \$16,044.54 worth of fruits, vegetables, handicraft, meats, home bakery, dairy and canned products, and poultry.

Negro farmers are not only providing more milk for family use, but in a number of cases, they are selling their surplus milk to dairies. Last year in Alamance and Orange counties alone, thirty Negro farmers sold 32,172 gallons of milk to a local milk plant for a total of \$8,300.40. One farmer in Orange County sold 3,714 gallons of milk last year.

In 1944, forty-two Negro farmers in Rowan, Iredell, Guilford, Caswell, Rockingham and Person counties sold 48,300 gallons of milk to a local dairy product company in Piedmont North Carolina, and realized a return of approximately \$11,592.00. In eight other Piedmont counties, thirty-eight Negro farmers sold milk to the same milk plant.

In eight counties having Negro Farm Agents, seventy-two Negro farm families sold 80,472 gallons of milk which brought them a return of \$19,892.00.



# CURB MARKETS GIVE US AN OUTLET



For Our Home Products, and Milk Routes Offer an  
Opportunity for Supplemental Incomes.



# ORGANIZATIONS

Large groups of people cannot work together without being properly organized. The organizations carrying on the bulk of the Extension activity throughout the counties are the Home Demonstration Clubs, 4-H Clubs and neighborhood leaders.

In 1944, there were 487 Negro Home Demonstration Clubs with a membership of 12,952 persons in 39 counties. Through these club members, the home agents encouraged the production and conservation of year round food supplies, proper nutrition, and better home management. The home demonstration program for the counties was planned by the 31 home demonstration councils organized within the clubs.

The 536 4-H Clubs had an enrollment of 28,861 boys and girls. These club members came from 20,187 Negro families and reported 38,684 completed projects in 1944. There were 2,017 enrolled in corn projects, 505 in peanuts, and 2,816 in pig projects. These boys and girls raised 197,442 chickens and turkeys in their poultry projects, and the 4-H girls canned 207,004 quarts of fruits and vegetables. The

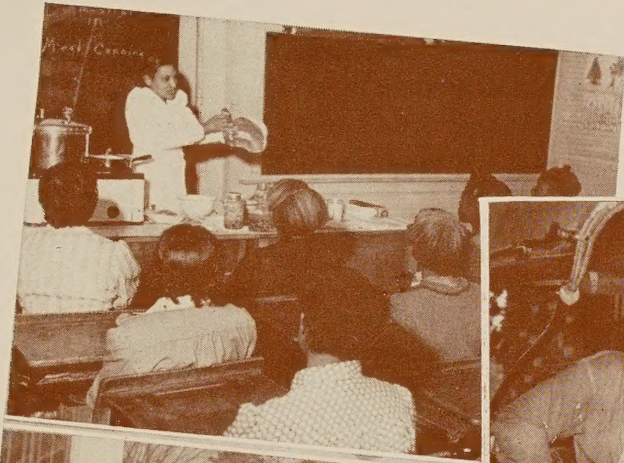
club members bought and sold \$89,341 worth of war stamps and bonds and collected 500,264 pounds of scrap iron, 26,956 pounds of rubber, and 2,030 pounds of grease.

Realizing the importance of having the Negro farm people take an active part in the development of their respective neighborhoods the Neighborhood Leaders Organization was set up among the farm families several years ago. In 1944 there were 7,017 trained Neighborhood Leaders who voluntarily offered to give their time and ability to developing a better agriculture in their locality, and carrying the information to families which the farm and home agent were unable to reach. In addition to the Neighborhood Leaders, 1,817 project leaders in the different home demonstration clubs gave many method demonstrations at club meetings.

Negroes throughout the counties are working together among themselves and with the Agricultural Extension Service in an effort to improve the farm life of the family, and through this working together the farm family moves ahead.



## WORKING TOGETHER . . .



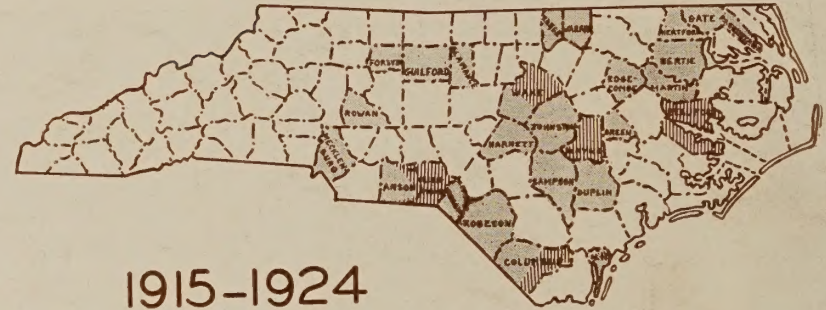
Through Organizing Our Efforts We Have Been Able to  
Accomplish More for the Negro Farm Family  
In North Carolina.



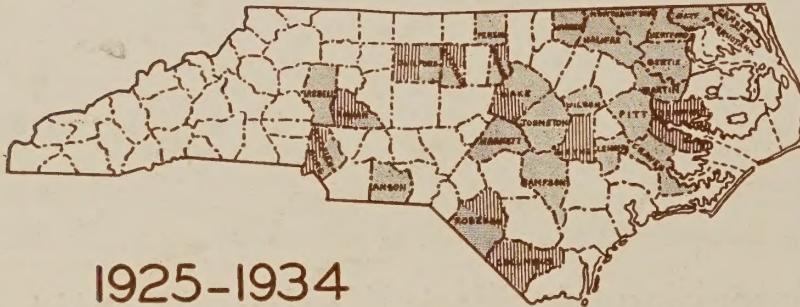
# THE GROWTH OF NEGRO EXTENSION WORK IN NORTH CAROLINA



1912-1914





1915-1924

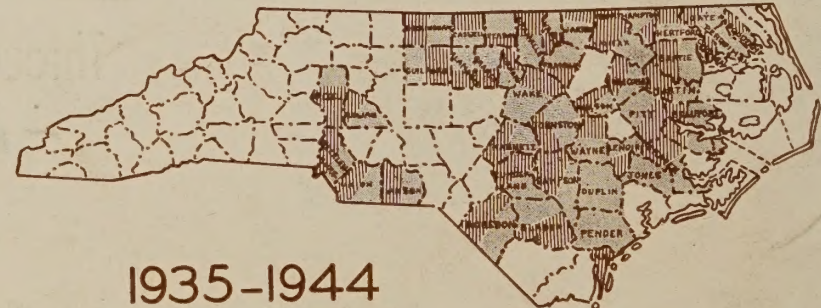


1925-1934

## LEGEND

NEGRO COUNTY AGENTS 

NEGRO HOME AGENTS 



1935-1944